

Strengths

Summary	Rank
Arts and culture / festivals (youth involved), food	1
Friendliness / family values / Family wellness - social services, elementary education, well educated population	2
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	3
Natural resources (bayous, Basin, ecosystems)	4
Progressive, welcome new ideas, environmental awareness, bike paths, new development, Innovative community	5
Metropolitan with "small town feel"	6
Green city - trees	7
Community characteristics - collaboration, hospitable, friendliness, inclusive	7
Economy	7
Medical facilities	7
Quality of Life / Affordability	7
Diversity	7
LUS Fiber	7

Weaknesses

Summary	Rank
Lack of infrastructure (sewage, gas, water, sidewalks) and Road Condition/Maintenance , traffic	1
North / South Division (isolated poverty and drugs, abandoned housing and commercial properties, poor maintenance)	2
Lack of veteran health care facility / local hospital, lack of access to health care	3
Public Education	4
Education / Jobs Mismatch (student lack of work ethic to keep up with new industry), lack of fostering opportunities for vulnerable, opportunities for young people	5
Racial and gender disparity "Denial"	6
Affordable housing, socioeconomic equality	7
Blight / poor neighborhoods are declining (marginalized diversity, divided community, infrastructure inequality)	7
Resources for new areas	7
Small town feel - makes us think small	7

Opportunities

Summary	Rank
Educational opportunities (i.e., expansion on UL, school system, pre-K, partnerships); global competitiveness	1
Alternative Energy Innovation: Silicone Valley for Alternative Energy; renewable energy	2
Jobs/Economy (skills in petroleum industry, entertainment center, diversified economy); highly educated workforce, diversity	3
Improve parks and open space system, healthier lifestyles; Green community	4
Loop around the city	5
Multi-generational Neighborhoods / centers (e.g., family centers and values, eldercare options, community, youth opportunities for recreation and activities)	5
Communications	5
Forward thinking community: open communication	5
Cultural economy	5
Can-do nature of people	5

Threats

Summary	Rank
Lack of funding / responsible spending (infrastructure, government goals), lack of cooperation	1
Imbalance of development and investment / division between north and south (e.g., overcrowding on Southside Development) / City vs. Parish	2
Traffic / congestion; Urban Sprawl; bad infrastructure, pollution, unplanned development	3
Losing our culture/heritage, lack of cultural sensitivity, minority conflicts	4
Education system - lack of improvement, declining trends	5
Lack of Economic Opportunity / economic diversity; lack of well paying jobs	6
Social / moral decline	7
Crime	7
Flood protection - drainage	7